

The following memo was sent by Don Fraser on Tuesday, September 30, 2003, for inclusion on the October 1, 2003 Charter Commission agenda. He will be asked to be present at the Charter Commission meeting.

Bert Black, a long-time former member of the Charter Commission, has drafted a proposed charter change relating to the timing of the next election for city council members. It would move the election up from the currently-scheduled 2005 date. This topic is also the subject of litigation.

Chapter 1, Section 3, Paragraph F of the Charter is amended to read:

F. The City Council shall enact the ordinances necessary to implement this section, provided that the redistricting process shall be governed by the law in effect on January 1 of the year in which a Redistricting Commission is established. ~~No readjustment of Ward boundaries shall apply to any City election if the adopted plan goes into effect after the first date for filing for such elections. All Council Members, including those who take office as provided in Chapter 2, Section 16 or 16A of this Charter, may complete the term for which they are elected, or appointed notwithstanding changes in Ward boundaries.~~ All Council Members must stand for election on the ward boundaries of the adopted plan, at the first general city election, as defined in Chapter 2, Section 4, after the plan is adopted, for a term of two years, except that in 2003 all Council Members must stand for election on the ward boundaries adopted in 2002, as soon as elections can be administered, for the remainder of the term for which elections were held in 2001.